



**\$ 86 MILLION FOR ENERGY PROJECTS ON THE ISLAND**  
***Thursday, March 12, 2009***

WASHINGTON, DC- Resident Commissioner Pedro Pierluisi was informed by the White House last night that Puerto Rico will receive \$86 million in federal funds to be used in the development of new energy projects on the Island.

The Vice President of the United States, Joseph Biden, and the Secretary of the Department of Energy, Steven Chu, announced at a press conference held today that these funds are part of a total allocation of approximately \$8 billion under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) to encourage the efficient use of energy.

The \$86 million destined for Puerto Rico is divided into \$49 million for weatherization projects (*Weatherization Program*) and \$37 million for state energy projects (*State Energy Program*).

"This allocation of funds for energy projects on the Island puts Puerto Rico on the right track to promote clean energy sources. Additionally, it provides Puerto Rican families with the means to save on their monthly energy bills," said Congressman Pierluisi.

"Puerto Rico will benefit from President Obama's ambitious energy agenda— an agenda that promotes values that the Fortuño administration shares," the Resident Commissioner added.

The Weatherization Program allows an investment of up to \$6,500 per household (available to for families of four members or more who make \$44,000 a year or less) in order to develop efficient energy projects.

Meanwhile, the funds allocated for the Puerto Rico Energy Department will enable the development of renewable energy projects, refurbishing of public buildings, and the promotion of energy efficient products (Energy Star).

<http://pierluisi.house.gov>